

2nd declension

Markers and Identifying Features

1. The 2nd declension is mostly* masculine and neuter in gender.
2. Its thematic vowel is -o
3. Its genitive ending is -i
4. The nominative forms of masculine nouns can end in:
 - us, -er, or -ir. There are 3 different ways to decline:

1. Ex. colonus, -i, m. - farmer

Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	<u>colonus</u>	<u>coloni</u>
Genitive	<u>coloni</u>	<u>colonerum</u>
Dative	<u>colono</u>	<u>colonis</u>
Accusative	<u>colonom</u>	<u>colonos</u>
Ablative	<u>colono</u>	<u>colonis</u>

*This is The standard and most common way of declining masculine nouns of The 2nd declension

2. nouns of The 2nd declension That end in -er have 2 ways to decline. The 1st is:

Ex. puer, -i, m. - boy

Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	<u>puer</u>	<u>pueri</u>
Genitive	<u>pueri</u>	<u>puerorum</u>
Dative	<u>puero</u>	<u>pueris</u>
Accusative	<u>puerum</u>	<u>pueros</u>
Ablative	<u>puero</u>	<u>pueris</u>

2nd declension

- The nominative singular form of 'puer' is 'puer'
- The stem is also 'puer-'; Then you add the case-endings
- * Nouns in -i are declined this way: vir, -i, m. - man (vir, viri, etc.)

The 2nd way to decline an -er noun of the 2nd declension is:

Ex. ager, -i, m. - field

Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ager	agri
Genitive	agri	agrorum
Dative	agro	agris
Accusative	agrum	agros
Ablative	agro	agris

- The nominative singular form is 'ager', but the stem changes to ~~agr~~ 'agr-' in all other cases.

* There are select nouns of the 2nd declension in the feminine, such as:

- names of trees (Quercus, -i, f. - oak), towns, islands, etc.

5. Neuter nouns of the 2nd declension have some special features:

- The nominative singular ends in '-um'
- The nominative and accusative plurals both end in '-a'
- The nominative and accusative forms in the singular and plural are exactly the same